

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A process for erasing or illustrating a printing style of a wet offset printing form, comprising the steps of;

providing a form which contains on a surface forming the printing style a photocatalytically and thermally modifiable material that can be brought into a hydrophilic state  
5 by irradiation with light and into a lipophilic state by heating;

erasing or producing a printing style by irradiating said surface with UV radiation; and feeding water to said surface during the irradiation.

2. A process in accordance with claim 1, wherein a humidity of at least 60% and preferably at least 80% is generated at said surface for the UV irradiation, and it is maintained for the duration of the UV irradiation.

3. A process in accordance with claim 1, wherein a preset temperature is set and maintained for the duration of the UV irradiation.

4. A process in accordance with claim 1, wherein said illustrated surface of said printing form is irradiated over its entire area for erasing.

5. A device for repeatedly illustrating a wet offset printing form, the device comprising:

a form with a surface that can be or is already illustrated, the form having a photocatalytically and thermally modifiable material, which can be brought photocatalytically into a hydrophilic state by irradiation with light and into a lipophilic state by heating;

5            an imaging means for producing a printing style by heating said photocatalytically and thermally modifiable material in the pattern of an image;

            an erasing means for erasing the printing style produced, wherein said erasing means has one or more radiation sources for daylight and/or UV light; and

            a humidifying unit for air conditioning by which a preset humidity can be generated and  
10        maintained at said printing form.

6. A device in accordance with claim 5, wherein said humidifying unit includes an encapsulation for said wet offset printing form and a plurality of cylinders of a printing unit so as to generate and maintain a preset humidity within said encapsulation.

7. A device in accordance with claim 6, wherein said humidifying unit comprises at least one humidity sensor arranged within said encapsulation and a regulator, to which the humidity value detected by the humidity sensor is sent as a controlled variable.

8. A device in accordance with claim 5, wherein said erasing means has one or more radiation sources for the full-area irradiation of said surface.

9. A device in accordance with claim 5, wherein the radiation source or radiation sources of said erasing means emits/emit a large percentage of radiation of a wavelength of at most 387 nm, wherein a wavelength spectrum emitted by the radiation source has a peak preferably at a wavelength of 387 nm.

10. A device in accordance with claim 5, wherein said printing form is arranged detachably and nondetachably on a printing form cylinder in a wet offset web-fed rotary printing press and said erasing means is directed toward said printing form cylinder and preferably extends over a length of said printing form measured in parallel to an axis of rotation of said printing form cylinder over such an extent that a full-area, uniform irradiation of said printing form can be carried out.

11. A device in accordance with claim 5, wherein said imaging means comprises a plurality of radiation sources for the irradiation of said printing form in the pattern of an image.

12. A device in accordance with claim 5, wherein the radiation sources of said imaging means are one of IR lasers and NIR lasers.

13. A device in accordance with claim 5, wherein said printing form is arranged detachably or nondetachably on a printing form cylinder in a wet offset printing press and the radiation sources of said imaging means are directed toward said printing form cylinder and are

arranged next to one another in parallel to an axis of rotation of said printing form cylinder.